AL-KISA FOUNDATION

UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY

The Spiritual Season

RAJAB, SHA'BAAN, AND SHAHR RAMADHAN

2019 PROJECT BOOKLET

PROPHET MUHAMMAD (S) SAID,
"BEHOLD! RAJAB IS THE MONTH OF ALMIGHTY ALLAH, SHA'BAAN IS MY MONTH, AND RAMADHAN IS THE MONTH OF MY PEOPLE."

Wasa'il al-Shi'ah

Visit kisakids.org/islamic-projects-d/ for more project booklets, and go to kisakids.org/donate to help us continue our efforts.

Please recite a Fatihah for the marhumin of those who contributed to this booklet.

Letter from Moulana

Salāmun ‘Alaykum,

May Allah bless you and your families. My tabreekaat and tahiyyaat to all the Muslims around the world on the arrival of the spiritual season, the blessed months of Rajab, Sha’baan and Ramaḍān.

As the spring season marks the regrowth of the plants, the month of Rajab marks the renewal of a person’s soul and quest for union with Allāh. In this sense, Rajab is the month of reseeding our faith and relationship with Allāh. We nourish this seed with spiritual water and sun through various recommended ritual practices, such as fasting, and by following the example of the Prophet Muhammad (s) and his Ahl al-Bayt (a). This seed eventually grows into a plant during the month of Sha’bān. In this month, we continue to grow the plant by nourishing the soul with proper akhlāq and observing our duties towards Allāh.
Why do we do this? These actions of renewal are there to prepare us for the upcoming month of Ramaḍān. The month of Ramaḍān is critical in our quest to reach spiritual perfection and for our salvation as Muslims in the Hereafter. For a month of such importance, do we really want to enter it empty handed? Obviously not. We want to enter it spiritually renewed so that we may take our relationship with Allāh to the next level.

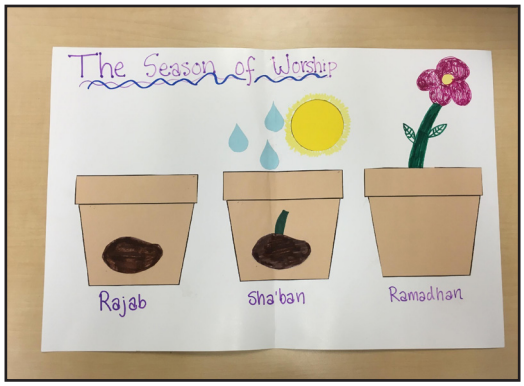
One of the key ways to do this is to spend time in this spiritual season strengthening family bonds. In today’s world, it is sometimes difficult for us to spend time with our family. Some of us are not around, such as our extended families, or we cannot participate in community events as much. These project booklets have been created so families can have spiritually healthy and fun resources to help facilitate a great bonding experience. Communities can use these booklets to facilitate fun and educational children’s programs. I urge families and communities to invest a little bit more time with the children, as this season is a good opportunity for us to create a spiritual atmosphere.

Dear families, strengthen your family bonds so we can strengthen our community bonds. One of the best ways to do this is by staying connected to the local masjid, imambargah, or center, and regularly meeting with fellow community members. These connections will help us become better connected with Allah and the Ahl al-Bayt (a). If we can achieve this, we will be successful, Inshāʾ Allāh.

Let us therefore take advantage of this beautiful month of Rajab. Let us grow this seed of faith by following the example of the Noble Prophet (s) and his Ahl al-Bayt (a) and serving the oppressed of the world through prayer and good deeds. By following the right role models and serving Allāh's creatures all around the earth, Inshāʾ Allāh we become closer to Him.

Inshā’Allāh the lessons found in this booklet will assist in planting the love and importance of these three months in our children. I request all of you to send any questions, suggestions, or feedback at info@kisakids.org, and Inshāʾ Allāh together we can build the foundation for Islāmic education.

With Du’ās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)



Lesson 1: Beginning the Spiritual Season

Objective: Children will learn about the significance of Rajab, Sha'baan, and Ramadhan, also known as the Spiritual Season.

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 min

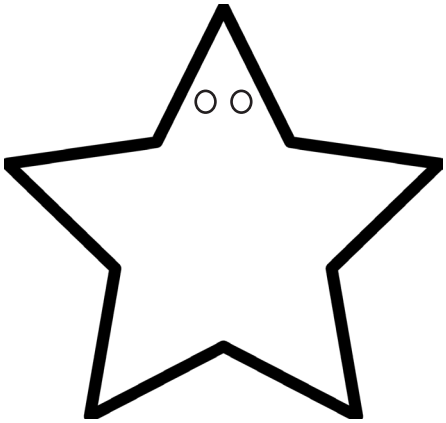
Materials:

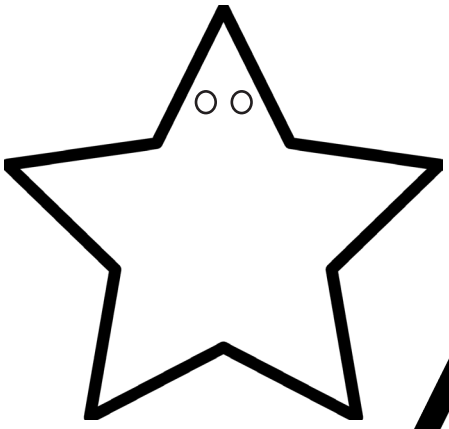
- Ornament template
- Thin String/Thread
- Markers/Colored Pencils
- Scissors

Procedure:

1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! Today is the beginning of a wonderful time of the Islamic year! Does anyone know what time of the year it is? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** Yes, excellent! It is the beginning of the Spiritual Season! This special season starts with the month of Rajab. Which other 2 months are included in this season? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** MashaAllah, they are Sha'baan and Ramadhan! Today, I want to share a special hadith that tells us a little bit about this Spiritual Season. Prophet Muhammad (s) once said, "Behold! Rajab is the month of Almighty Allah, Sha'baan is my month, and Ramadhan is the month of my people. Whoever observes fasting on one day of this month [Rajab] will bindingly win the Grand Pleasure of the Lord." What does this mean? What good deeds can we do in this season? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** Yes, exactly! One great act we should try to do during this spiritual season is fasting. Besides fasting, there are many other acts of worship we can do that will bring us closer to Allah and the Ahlul Bayt (a). Don't we want to get closer to Allah? (Wait for responses)
5. **SAY:** Yes, inshaAllah! This spiritual season is a great time to gain Allah's blessings, so let us celebrate this wonderful season! Today, we will be making some Spiritual Season ornaments to decorate our homes to begin this celebration inshaAllah!
6. At this time, pass out the star ornament template. Have the children color and decorate them however they wish.
7. Next, the children should carefully cut out the ornaments.
8. Then, help the children punch a hole through the small circles at the top of each star.
9. Now give each child a string and help them thread it through the stars. Weave the string in through the first hole and out through the other.
10. Be sure to keep the stars in order, Rajab, then Sha'baan, then Ramadhan. There are extra, smaller stars for adding to the string in between the bigger stars.

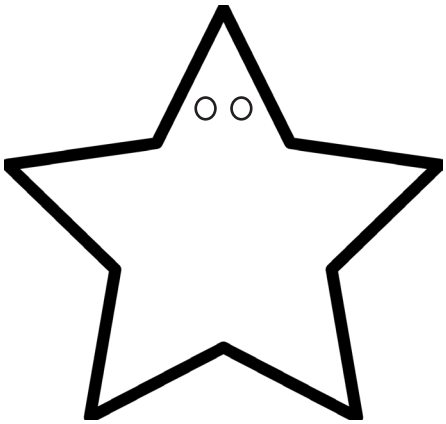
Rajab
THE MONTH OF
ALLAH





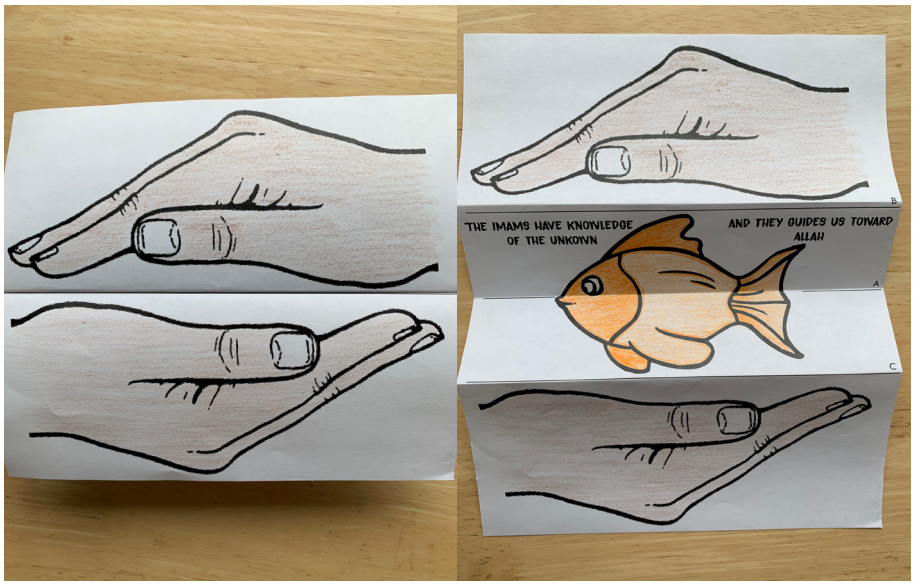
Sha'baan
THE MONTH OF
THE PROPHET

Ramadhan
THE MONTH OF
THE MUSLIMS



Lesson 2: Imam Jawad (a) - The Young Imam

Objective: Children will learn about Imam Jawad (a) and how the knowledge and status of Imamah is not dependent on the Imam being a certain age.

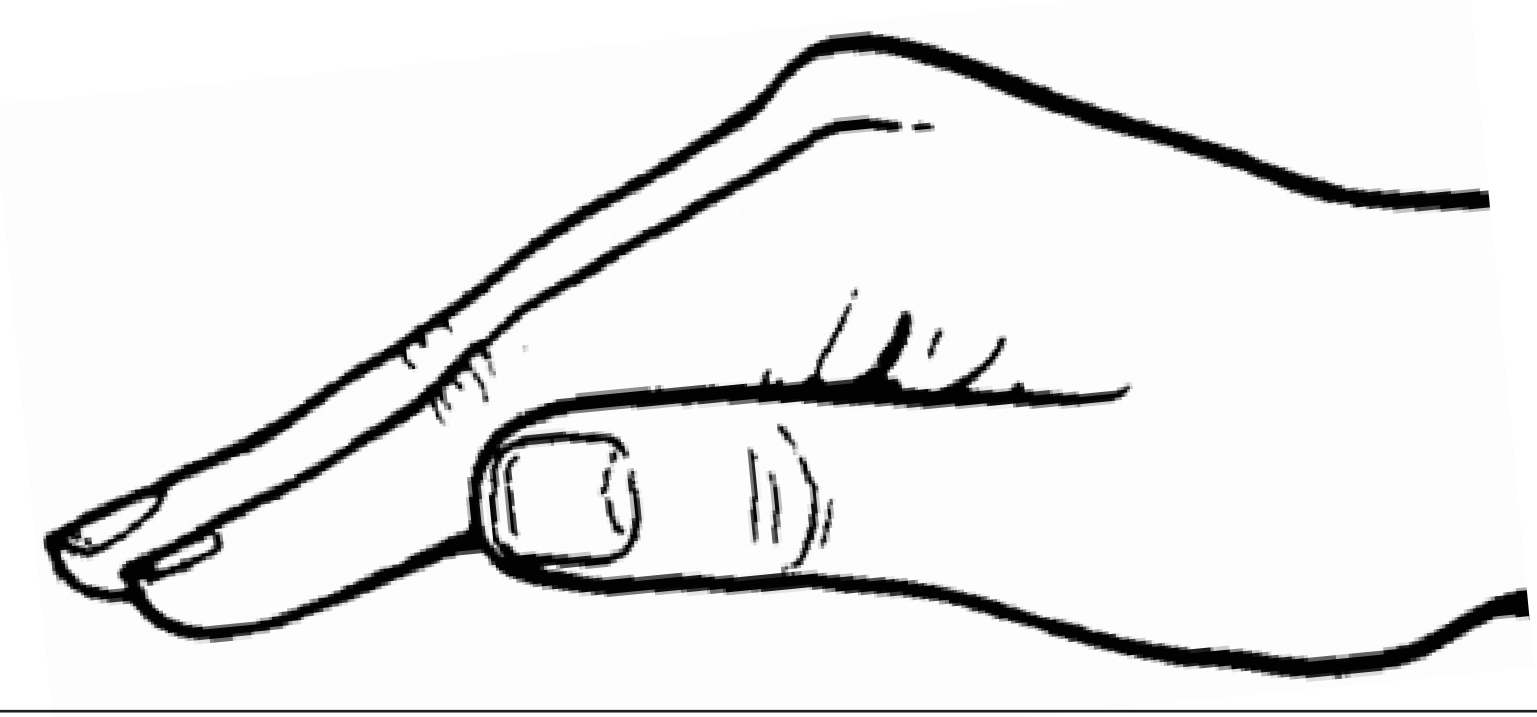


Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 min

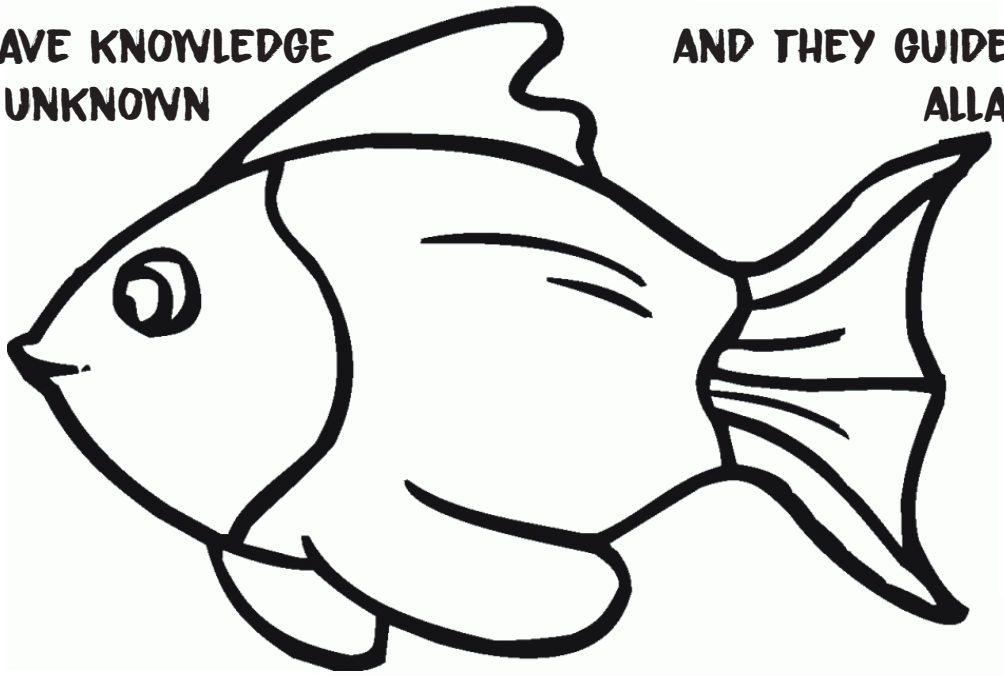
Materials:
- Hand Fish template
- Scissors
- Colored Pencils/Markers

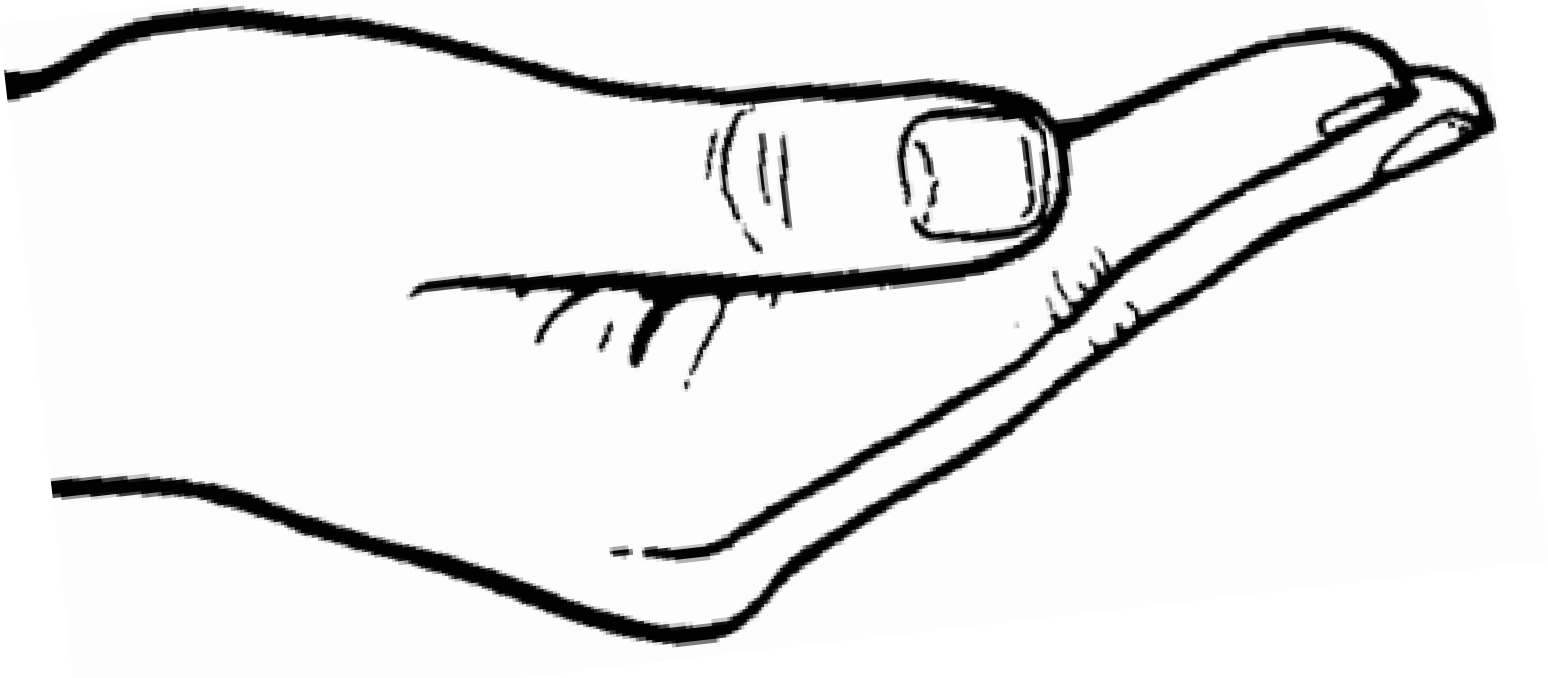
Procedure:
1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! So we have begun the Spiritual Season of the Islamic year, starting with the month of Rajab. There are many special occasions in this month. Can anyone name one event that happened in Rajab? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** Yes, excellent! Rajab is the birth month of our first Imam, Imam Ali (a) who was born on the 13th of Rajab, and of our 5th Imam, Imam Baqir (a), who was born on 1st of Rajab. There is another Imam who was also born in this month. That is Imam Jawad (a), and he is born on the 10th of Rajab. Does anyone know which Imam he is? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** MashaAllah, he is our 9th Imam! Today, I'm going to tell you a story about Imam Jawad (a) when he was a young boy. One day, the evil ruler Ma'moon was riding through town with his hunting party. When the people saw this, they all scattered and hid because they did not want to get in the way of Ma'moon and they were scared of being hurt by the soldiers. All of the children, who were playing on the street, ran away, except one child. When Ma'moon saw him, he stopped and asked the young boy why he didn't run away like the other children. The young boy replied that the road was wide enough for everyone and that he was not doing anything wrong by staying there. Hearing this, Ma'moon asked the boy who he was, and found out that the boy was Imam Jawad (a)! Ma'moon, who had just come back from hunting, secretly held a fish in his hand and asked the Imam if he could guess what he was holding in his hand. Imam Jawad (a) replied, "Allah has created tiny fish in the river. These fish are hunted by the hawks of the kings, and the descendants of the Prophets reveal the secrets." Even as a young boy, Imam Jawad (a) showed he had knowledge of the unseen! What does this mean? At what age does an Imam become an Imam? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** The Imam was only 5 years old! When an Imam has to take the responsibility of Imamah, Allah gives him divine help, and their age does not make a difference. An Imam does not have to be a certain age to have knowledge or to guide people. Today we are going to make a cool project to remember young Imam Jawad's knowledge.
5. At this time, hand out the hand fish template. Have the children color and decorate the hands and the fish however they like.
6. Then, the children should fold the paper in half widthwise. They should fold such that the images are inside.
7. Then, the children should fold the paper at the line beneath the top hand, this time folding up so that the image of the hand is showing.
8. Now, they should fold the same way at the line labeled above the bottom hand. This should make the paper look like a capital T with the image of the fish hidden in the fold.
9. Finally, they can extend the paper fully to show the fish in between the two hands.



THE IMAMS HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE UNKNOWN

AND THEY GUIDES US TOWARD ALLAH





Lesson 3: Imam Ali (a): A Gift from Allah

Objective: Children will learn about Imam Ali (a) and what he says is the best gift from Allah.

Suggested Ages: 5+

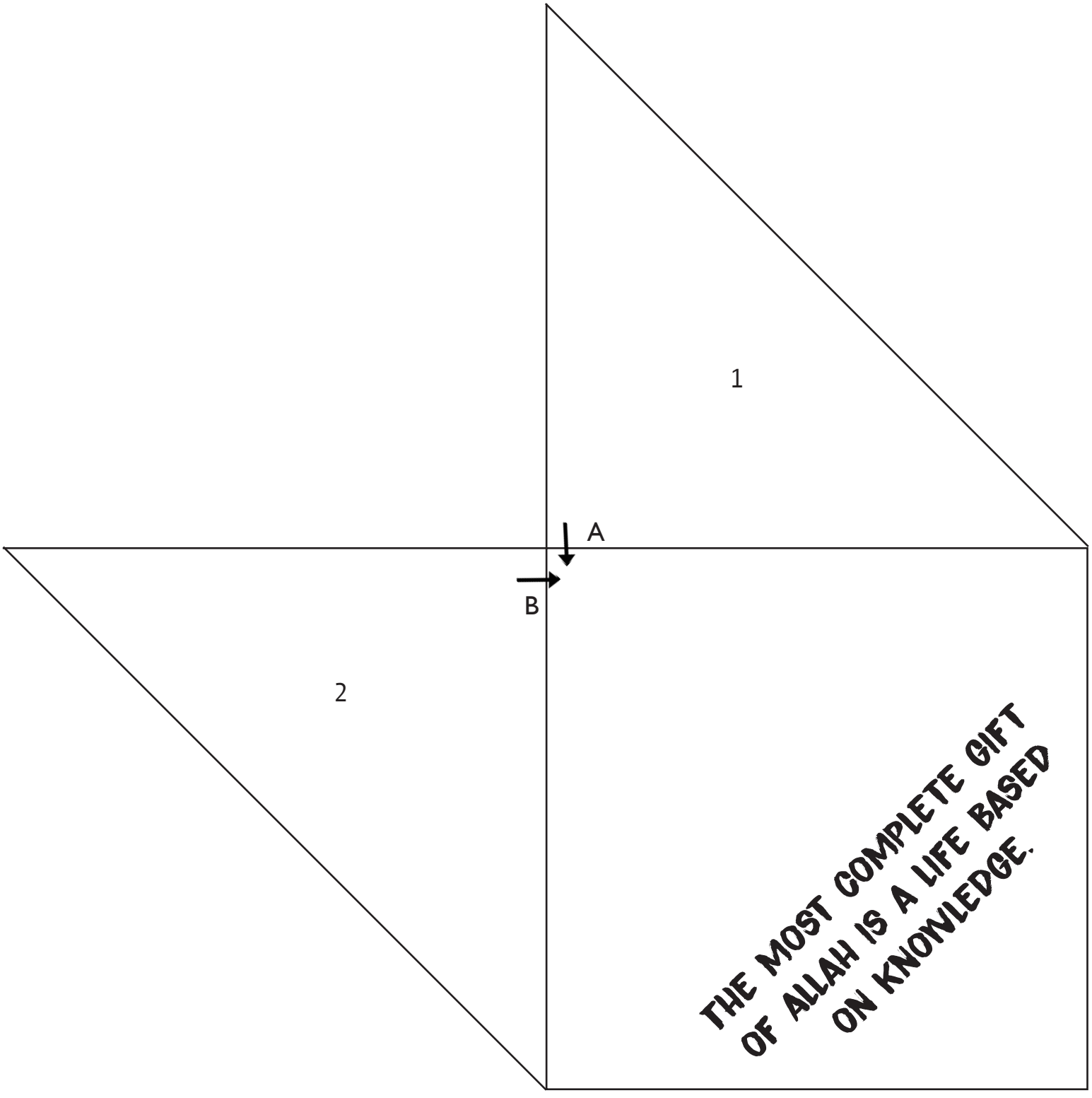
Time: 40 min

Materials:

- Bookmark template
- Scissors
- Glue/Tape
- Color Pencils/Markers

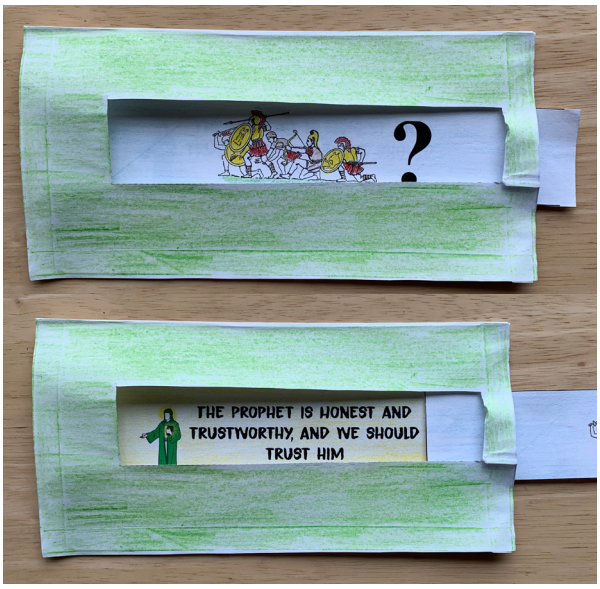
Procedure:

1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! Today we will be remembering a special Imam who was born on the 13th of Rajab. Does anyone know whose birthday we are celebrating? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** Mashallah! It is the birthday of Imam Ali (a)! Which Imam is he? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** Very good, he is our first Imam! Today, I want to share a special saying from Imam Ali (a) that shows the importance of gaining knowledge. Imam Ali (a) said, "The most complete gift of Allah is a life based on knowledge." What does this mean? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** Yes, exactly! We should gain as much knowledge as we can, and always learn new things. In this season of spirituality, one great act we can also do is learn. This will bring us closer to the Allah and the Ahlul Bayt, and live a life like Allah wants for us, a life like a gift. Don't we want to get closer to Allah? (Wait for responses)
5. **SAY:** Yes, inshaAllah! This spiritual season is a great time to learn more about Islam, so let us celebrate this wonderful season! What are some ways we can learn? Who are the best people to learn from? (Wait for responses)
6. **SAY:** Very good answers! The Ahlul Bayt (a) are the best people to learn from. Some ways we can learn are going to school, listening to lectures, and reading books. Today, we will be making some bookmarks to put in our books, as a reminder to live our life like a gift from Allah, inshaAllah!
7. At this time, pass out the bookmark template. Have the children first cut out all along the outside edges of the shape.
8. Once the shape is completely cut out, the children should fold at the lines labeled "A" and "B" towards the square. Follow the arrows.
9. Then they should glue the triangle flap numbered 2 on top of the triangle shape numbered 1. This should create a pocket with the text showing.
10. Now the children can color and decorate the square bookmark however they want.


1
A
B
2
THE MOST COMPLETE GIFT
OF ALLAH IS A LIFE BASED
ON KNOWLEDGE.

Lesson 4: Ma'bath

Objective: Children will learn about the event of Ma'bath, when our Noble Prophet (s) began his prophethood.



Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 min

Materials:

- Slide-out Card template
- Scissors
- Glue/Tape
- Colored Pencils/Markers

Procedure:

1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! We've been talking about this wonderful time of the Islamic year! Can anyone tell me what we call this special time of year? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** MashaAllah! It is the Spiritual Season! This special season starts with the month of Rajab. We've talked about many special days in this month, such as the wiladah of Imam Jawad (a) and Imam Ali (a). Another auspicious day is the 27th of Rajab. Imam Sadiq (a) said, "There is a night in Rajab, which carries for people goodness that is more beneficial to them than whatever is exposed to sunlight. It is the twenty-seventh night, in the morning of which the Noble Prophet's Divine Mission started. Verily, one who does acts of worship on this night will have the same reward as one who has worshipped Almighty Allah for sixty years." From this, we can see that there is a lot of thawaab for doing worship on this day. So what is so special about this day? Can anyone guess what is special about this day? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** Very good guesses! On this day, Prophet Muhammad (s) went on Me'raj, where he traveled to the Heavens. It is also marks the day Prophet Muhammad (s) announced his prophethood, known as Ma'bath, so we celebrate two eids on this day, Eid al-Me'raj and Eid al-Ma'bath. Once, when the Prophet (s) first wanted to share the news of his prophethood with everyone, he asked the people, "O people! Will you believe me if I tell you that your enemies intend to ambush you at dawn or at night?" They all answered, "We have not heard a lie from you throughout your life." The Noble Prophet (s) said, "O people! I warn you to fear Allah's punishment. Save yourself from the fire. My position is the same as that of the guard who sees the enemy from afar and warns his people of the danger of their enemies." What does this show about Prophet Muhammad's character? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** Very good answers. Yes, this shows that he was a very trustworthy and honest person, and when he announced that he was Prophet, the people knew he was telling the truth. Even though the Prophet (s) was trustworthy and honest, some people still did not believe and trust him, so they went astray. Today we will be making a project to remember the Prophet's honesty, and to remind ourselves that whatever our Prophet and Imams say we need to trust, because what they say comes from Allah.
5. At this time, pass out the slide-out card templates. First have the children cut out the card and the slider all along the outer edges.
6. Then, the children should carefully cut out the dotted panels numbered 1 and 2.
7. Now the children can color and decorate their card and slider however they wish. Remember, the outside of the card is on the back, the inside is the side with the image of the Prophet.
8. Then, the children should place the slider on top of the card, covering the image of the Prophet and the text. The vertical side of the slider should be on the left and the army image should be face up.
9. Next, fold the card in half at the line labeled "A." The side of the card with the window cut out of it should be on top. The end of the slider should be sticking out a little from the right side of the card.
10. Now help the children fold the 4 flaps around the card labeled "B" (on the left side), "C" (at the bottom), "D," and "E" (two small ones on the right side). Carefully glue them to the top half of the card with the window, starting with "C" and then the side ones (B, D, and E).
11. Once the card is glued together, the slider should be able to slide to the right, revealing the Prophet and text inside.
12. At this time, the children can make any final touches to their cards, by coloring and decorating.

1

A

THE PROPHET IS HONEST AND TRUSTWORTHY, AND WE SHOULD TRUST HIM

E

2

B

D

C

?

Lesson 5: Imam Husain (a)

Objective: Children will learn about Imam Husain (a) and the different kinds of worshippers, as described by Imam Husain (a).

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 min

Materials:

- Pop-up card template
- A blank piece of paper (any color)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Colored Pencils/Markers

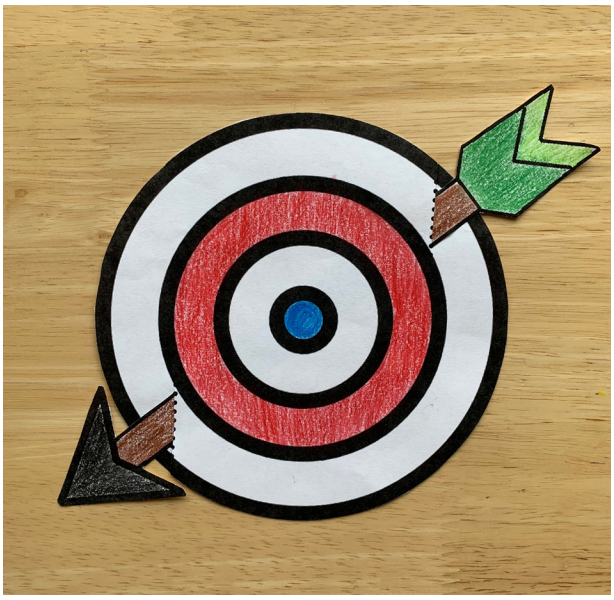
Procedure:

1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! It's the month of Sha'baan and today we are celebrating the birthday of a very special person. Can anyone tell me whose wiladah we are celebrating today? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** Yes, excellent! It is Imam Husain's wiladah! He was born on the 3rd of Sha'baan, one of the three months in the Spiritual Season. Which Imam is he? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** MashaAllah, he is our 3rd Imam! We've talked about how important it is to do worship in this special season. Today, I want to share a special hadith that tells us how to be a good worshipper. Imam Husain (a) once said, "Those who worship Allah for the hope of gaining, they're not real worshipers, they're business people. Those who worship Allah out of fear (of punishment), they're slaves. And those who worship Allah to be grateful towards their Creator, they are the free people, and their worship is a real one." What does this mean? Which type of worshipper do we want to be? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** Very good! We should make sure our intention of worship, or why we are worshipping, is pure and for the sake of Allah. We want to be among those who are free, who thank Allah for all of the blessings He has given us. Today, we will be making pop-up cards to help remind us of what kind of worshipper we should be, inshaAllah!
5. At this time, pass out the pop-up card template. Before coloring, have the children fold the template in half widthwise with the text on the inside.
6. Then, help the children draw half a heart, beginning at the fold of the paper. Make sure the bottom of the heart is not all the way to the bottom edge of the heart (it should end above the text on the inside), and only half way wide.
7. Next, the children should carefully cut along the line of their heart, except they should stop at the outermost portion of the curve (about 1 inch). This should leave the heart still attached to the paper, not detached.
8. Now they should unfold the paper and be able to see a full heart. They can fold the heart inside the card by gently pushing it at the fold. This will create a pop-up effect when they open and close the card.
9. Then, help them glue a blank piece of paper on the back of the card. Be sure not to glue down the heart.
10. Now the children can color and decorate their card however they wish.

AND THOSE WHO WORSHIP ALLAH TO BE GRATEFUL TOWARDS THEIR CREATOR,
THEY ARE THE FREE PEOPLE, AND THEIR WORSHIP IS A REAL ONE.

Lesson 6: Imam Sajjad (a): Arrow of Gossip

Objective: Children will learn about Imam Sajjad (a) and why we should not spread rumors and gossip.



Suggested Ages: 5+

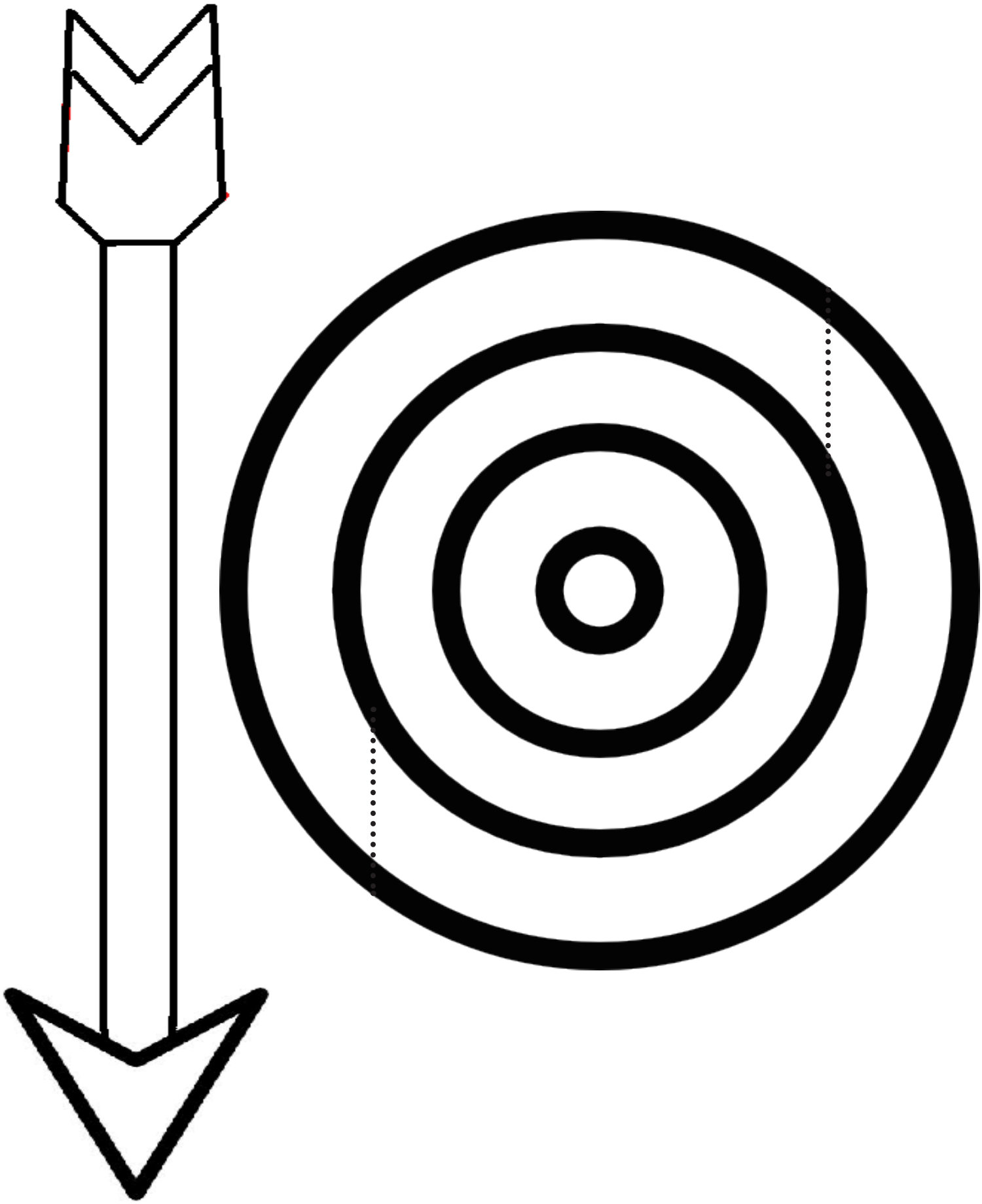
Time: 40 min

Materials:

- Target and Arrow template
- Colored Pencils/Markers
- Scissors
- Glue/Tape

Procedure:

1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! In this Spiritual Season, we have celebrated the birthdays of many Imams. Today, we are remembering Imam Sajjad (a) on his wiladah. Who can tell me which Imam he is? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** Correct, he is our 4th Imam! His father's wiladah is also in Sha'baan. Does anyone who his father is? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** MashaAllah, he is Imam Husain (a)! Today, I want to share a story about Imam Sajjad (a). Once, a man came to Imam Sajjad (a) and told him that someone was saying bad things about the Imam. The man claimed to be the Imam's friend by telling him this gossip! Imam Sajjad (a) told the man that he had not heard that person's mean words, and if the man had not told the Imam, he never would have known about it. It was as if the person who said those horrible things shot an arrow at the Imam but missed, and then the man who claimed to be the Imam's friend picked up the arrow and hit the target (the Imam). What does this story tell us? What mistake did the man make? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** Yes, exactly! By telling Imam Sajjad (a) those mean things, the man spread gossip. Allah does not like the habit of spreading rumors and gossip, even if they are true. We should avoid making the same mistake the man made and not spread mean things to each other. InshaAllah that will bring us closer to the Allah and the Ahlul Bayt (a). Today, we will be making a project to remind us not to spread gossip and other mean things.
5. At this time, pass out the target and arrow template. Have the children color and decorate them however they wish.
6. Next, the children should carefully cut out the arrow and the target.
7. Then, the children should locate the two dotted lines on the target. Here, they should cut small slits along each dotted line. The cut should only be the length of the dotted line.
8. Now the children should flip the target over so that the lines are face down. Help them slide the end of arrow through the top slit and the head of the arrow through the bottom slit. Make sure the arrow is also face down, so that the colored side shows on the front.
9. Then, the children should carefully tape or glue the arrow down securely on the back.
10. The children should turn the target back over. It should look like the arrow is piercing through the target.



Lesson 7: Imam Mahdi (AJ): Praying for His Reappearance

Objective: Children will learn about Imam Mahdi (AJ) and the importance of praying for his reappearance.

Suggested Ages: 5+

Time: 40 min

Materials:

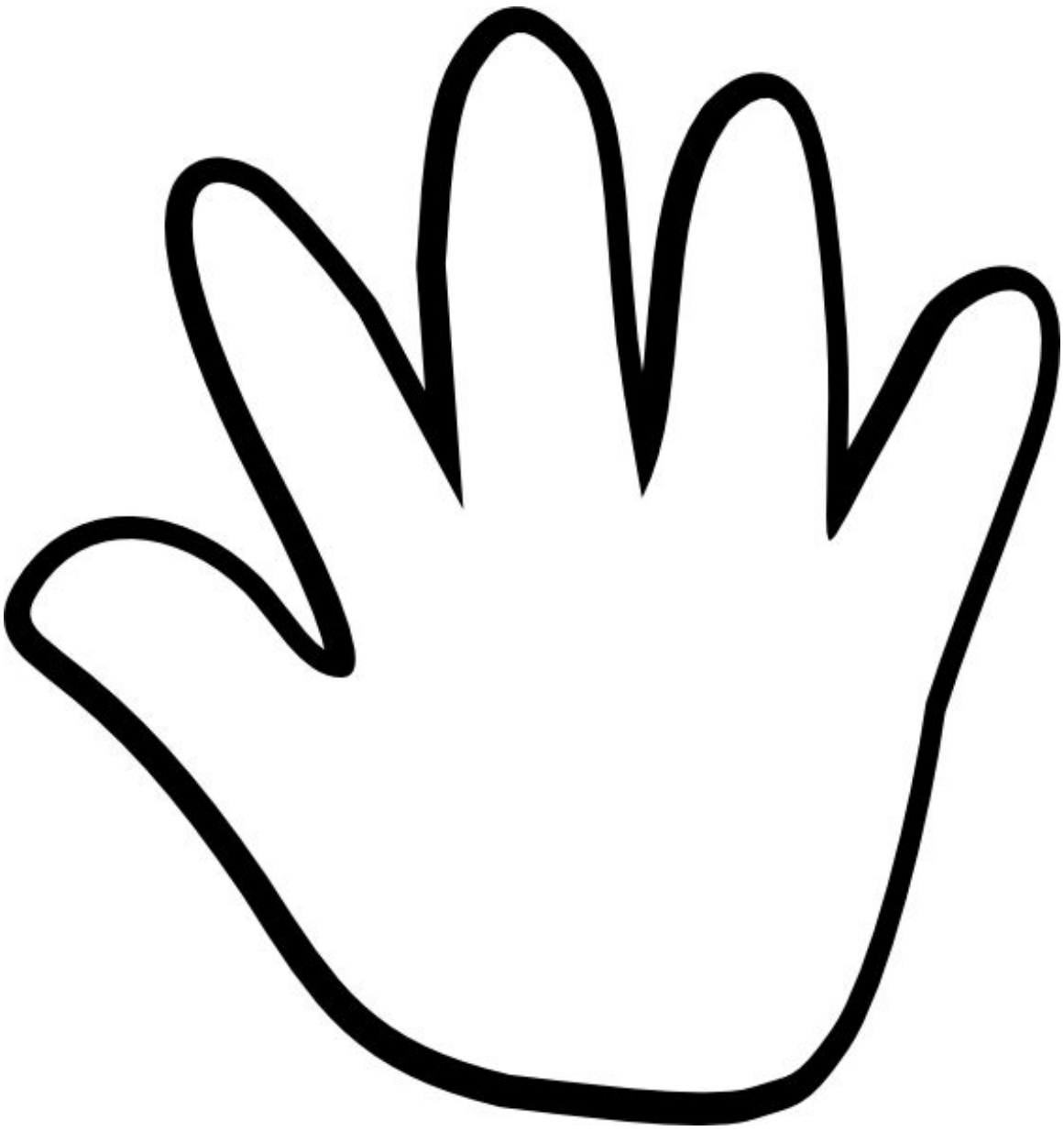
- Ship template
- A blank sheet of paper (any color)
- Pencils
- Colored Pencils/Markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- *Optional:* Hand template

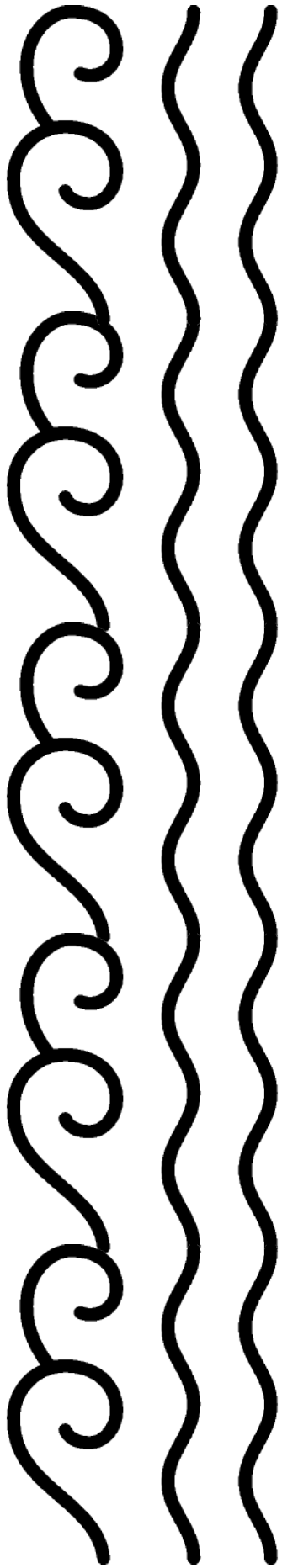
Procedure:

1. **SAY:** Salaamun Alaikum everyone! Today we are celebrating the birthday of a very special person. Can anyone tell me whose wiladah we are celebrating? (Wait for responses)
2. **SAY:** Yes, excellent! It is the birthday of our current Imam, Imam Mahdi (AJ)! He is the last Imam, but which Imam is he? (Wait for responses)
3. **SAY:** Very good, he is the 12th Imam. Did you know he is still alive today? Can anyone guess how old he is? (Wait for responses)
4. **SAY:** This year is his 1185th birthday! By Allah's miracle, he is alive for so many years, and will one day come to bring peace and justice to the world, and to lead and guide us. Today, I want to share a special hadith from our Imam. Imam Mahdi (AJ) has said, "Pray for my reappearance because in it is your salvation." What does "salvation" mean? What good deed can we do in this season? (Wait for responses)
5. **SAY:** Yes, exactly! One great act we should try to do during this spiritual season is pray for the reappearance of Imam Mahdi (AJ). Salvation means saving from harm and risks, so we pray for the Imam to reappear and guide us toward Allah, which will help us succeed in life. This spiritual season is the best time to make these prayers, because this is the season of Allah's blessings! Today, we will be making some artwork to decorate our homes, and to remind us to pray for Imam Mahdi's reappearance, inshaAllah!
6. At this time, pass out the blank piece of paper to each child and have them trace their hand with a pencil in the center of the page. It is best to have the page laid lengthwise. This will be the "ship." They can color it any color they wish. *Optional:* the child can use the hand image in the template if they are not able to trace their hand.
7. Then, pass out the ship template. Have the children color and decorate the flag, sails, windows, and waves however they like.
8. Next, the children should carefully cut out each of the items.
9. Then, the children should glue the pieces in place: the sails on the 3 middle fingers, the windows in the middle of the palm, the flag at the top, and the waves underneath the ship.
10. Now they can make any final touches or any additional elements to their picture. Two of the sails have some phrases they can say, and they can add their own little prayer on the last sail.

O IMAM,
HELP US TO BE
SUCCESSFUL

O IMAM,
GUIDE US
TOWARD ALLAH!





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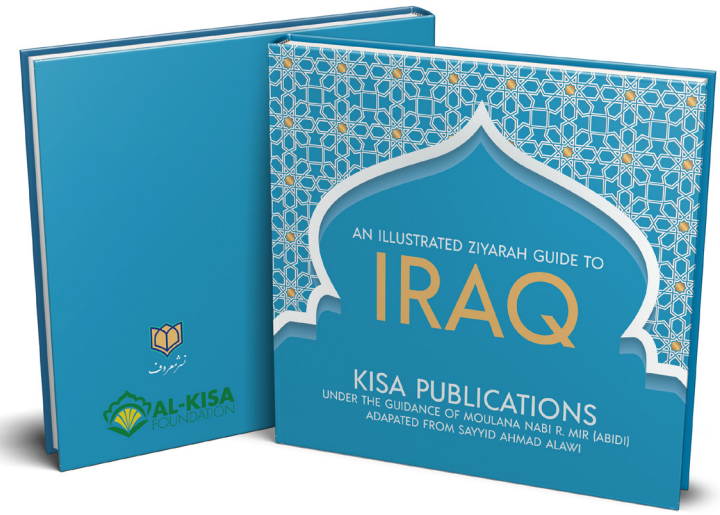
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